

# Inside Wallops

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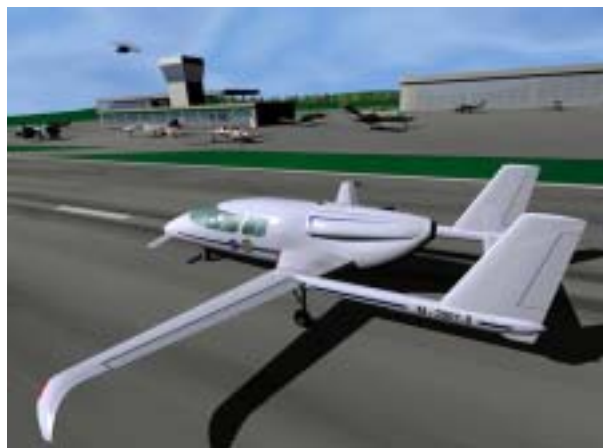
February 4, 2008



## NASA and Industry Join Forces for Virginia Aerospace Day

A quarter of today's U.S. aerospace workers are eligible to retire in 2008. The Aerospace Industries Association has deemed this potential skills drain — in an area that is the largest contributor to the positive balance of trade in the manufacturing sector — one of the nation's top ten priorities.

NASA leaders from the Langley Research Center in Hampton and Wallops Flight Facility joined with aerospace industry representatives and members of professional organizations statewide at AeroSpace Day, January 31, in Richmond. These aerospace advocates met with General Assembly members to discuss this critical issue and the vital role aerospace plays in Virginia.



NASA Graphic

There are over 300 aerospace companies in Virginia that, in 2006, employed over 24,000 people. NASA facilities in Virginia generated \$1.2 billion in revenue and 12,000 jobs in the Commonwealth.

Ensuring an educated and highly skilled workforce for Virginia and for the nation was a critical topic on the AeroSpace Day 2008 agenda.

Astronaut Andy Thomas, mission specialist on three shuttle flights and flight engineer who spent over four months onboard the Mir space station, was on

hand to discuss NASA's long-term exploration goals. He accompanied students from John B. Cary Elementary School to a meeting with Senator Aston D. McEachin, D-VA-9. The students spoke with their district senator about their experiences and opportunities as a result of being named a NASA Explorer School.

Throughout the morning, Langley's educational experts demonstrated NASA's digital learning network, an electronic education capability that links students and teachers with NASA experts across the nation. This network was demonstrated by an interactive video-conference with Chesterfield Elementary School, one of the four NASA Explorer Schools in Norfolk and the Virginia Air and Space Center. The demos illustrated the value of technology to teachers, parents, students and Virginians of every age.

Lesa Roe, Director of NASA Langley Research Center spoke at a news conference along with John Campbell, Director of NASA Wallops Flight Facility and Aneesh Chopra, Virginia Secretary of Technology.

During Aerospace Day events, NASA and industry leaders had an opportunity to talk with 60 state officials, including the Secretary of Education, Secretary of Commerce and Trade, Speaker of the House, Chair of the Science Committee, President of the Senate Pro Tempore, and members of the Education, Transportation, Appropriations, Finance and Science Committees.

Informational packages were delivered to 30 additional representatives.

The House and the Senate recognized Virginia's aerospace community during the legislative session.

## Terry Ewell is a Winning Writer

Terry Ewell is a winner in the Bay to Ocean Writing Contest, sponsored by the Bay to Ocean Writers Conference and the "Delmarva Quarterly" magazine.

Ewell, NASA Wallops Mail Service Center, came home with a first place win in the nonfiction category for her work, "Music to My Ears."

A total of 68 talented writers from Maryland; Delaware; Virginia; Washington, D.C.; and New Jersey posted entries in three categories: fiction, nonfiction and poetry.

First place winners will receive free admission to the 11th Annual Bay to Ocean Writers Conference at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills, MD., on February 23.

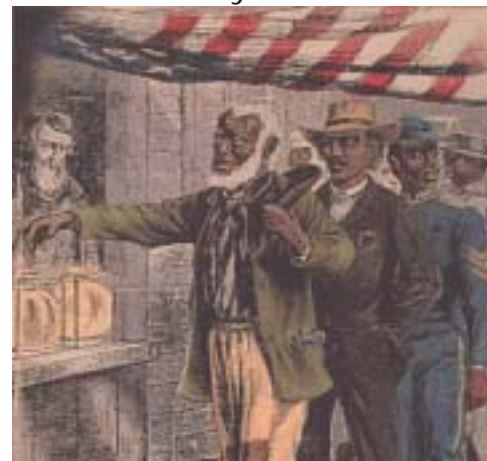
They will read their work during the conference's opening program, and their winning pieces will be published in the spring issue of the "Delmarva Quarterly" magazine.

## Words to Live By

"You can't have a better tomorrow if you are thinking about yesterday all the time."

..... Charles F. Kettering

## February is Black History Month



## Taking it Off

The January Diet Incentive Program winner with a big loss is Angie McCullough.

After reviewing all the percentages three runners-up were really close! Everyone did a good job but the runners-up, Rob Cass, Anthony Bream and Sonny Hall along with McCullough, were very close in weight loss and in percentage.

Of the 24 original participants signed up for January, 14 people were present for the final weigh-in. The total weight loss for these 14 people = 139 pounds.

It is incredible how much weight was lost in one month. The Wallops Arobics Club congratulates Angie and everyone who participated. You did a great job!

## Wallops Mentoring Program

The objective of the Wallops Mentoring Program is career development and enhancement, knowledge management, and skills development. Employees who participate have an opportunity for personal growth that, potentially, can lead to higher job satisfaction, greater efficiency, and consideration of career options.

Applications for the 2008 Wallops Mentoring Program are being accepted through February 12, 2008. Anyone who interested in the program should visit: <http://www.mentoringconnection.com> and complete the online registration form.

Questions should be directed to Tracey White at x66-7823 or Richard Billger at x2394.

## You're Invited to Join

Zumba, 4:45 p.m., Tuesdays  
Yoga, 4:45 p.m., Wednesdays  
In Building D-10, Gym

Tai Chi Chuan, 11:30 a.m., Thursdays  
In Building F-3, Training Room

For more information visit: <http://sites.wff.nasa.gov/wac>

## Toastmasters



Looking for a little lunchtime diversion? Join the Wallops Debedeavon Toastmasters this Wednesday, February 6, at 11:30 a.m. at the Cropper Center. There is no obligation to join.

Call Mike Barnhill at x1641 for details.

## Mild Start To 2008 by Bob Steiner, Meteorologist

During January we experienced 17 days and 17 nights with above normal temperatures giving us a month that was 2.1 degrees warmer than the average 38.1 degree temperature.

There were three daily maximum record temperatures set; 69 degrees on January 7, 65 degrees on January 8 and 70 degrees on January 9. The 70 degree reading on the January 9 also was the high for the month.

The coldest morning during the month was the January 21 with a reading of 10 degrees.

January was drier than normal with 1.7 inches of liquid precipitation being recorded on 13 days. A little over three inches of precipitation on 10 days is normal.

The greatest 24 hour total was 1.11 inches between the January 17 and 18.

Snowfall amounts were above normal for the month with 3.2 inches falling on three days. The average is 2.91 inches on two days. The greatest amount measured, 2.2 inches, fell on January 22.

Winds were of interest in January. Winds of 30 mph or greater were recorded on nine days. A 46 mph gust recorded at 11:07 a.m.

on the January 30 was the strongest gust experienced.

With the end of winter coming in March, high temperatures at the beginning of the month will average 49 degrees, warming into the mid 50's by the end of the month.

Low temperatures average 31 degrees on March 1 increasing to 40 degrees by the end of the month.

The record high for the month is an 86 degree reading recorded on March 13 in 1990.

The coolest morning was experienced on the March 1, 1980, with a 14 degree reading, which was tied March 4, 1996.



Expect measurable rain on 10 days during the month depositing 3.80 inches of liquid precipitation.

The wettest March occurred in 1994 when 9.47 inches was recorded. The driest March on record occurred in 2006 when only 0.28 inches was recorded.

March brings our last real chance for snow as we only average .32 inches falling normally on one day.

We welcome the beginning of spring during the last part of the month.

## IT Security Training

IT Security (ITS) is a top priority for NASA. Annual ITS training is mandatory for employees to have the appropriate awareness and tools to protect information systems.

All Wallops employees are required to complete ITS training by April 30. It is offered online through the SATERN Web site at: <https://satern.nasa.gov/elms/learner/login.do>

## Safety Alerts

DeWALT Recalls Cordless Drills Due to Fire Hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml08/08143.html>

Intermatic Recalls Digital Timers Due to Electrical Shock Hazard.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml08/08157.html>

*Inside Wallops* is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* also may be found at: <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/news/newsletters.html>

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